

The mission of the Chattanooga Area Food Bank (CAFB) is "To gather and share grocery products with our neighbors in need. The Food Bank is a bridge between American's food bounty and those who cannot provide for themselves." This mission translated into 8.8 million pounds of food distributed in 2005.

The Chattanooga Area Food Bank serves a 20-county area in southeast Tennessee and northwest Georgia.. CAFB gathers food from the food industry (corporate producers and distributors, grocery stores and restaurants) and distributes it through a network of 380 churches and agencies.

Food Shopping

Nonprofit agencies and congregational pantries from Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama buy food from the Food Bank to distribute to the hungry at a rate of only 18 cents per pound.

Sak Paks

Sak Pak is a partnership with area schools, designed to provide a weekend food supply for children identified by teachers and administrators as needing food assistance. Each Friday, children from food insecure families are provided a bag containing non-perishable, kid friendly food items. During the 2005 – 06 school year, CAFB gave out 900 food bags to hungry children each week.

Second Helpings

This partnership with area restaurants and cafeterias rescues prepared food that is often discarded. Participating restaurants freeze prepared food, which are picked up and delivered to local agencies.

Kid's Café

Kid's Café partners with after school programs to provide meals for their clients. In 2005, the Food Bank's Kid's Café program served 18,574 meals to children from low-income families.

Community Gardening

The Bill Johnson Community Garden, located off MLK Boulevard on Gateway Avenue, promotes the value of growing healthy food and provide support for local community gardening initiatives.

Emergency Food Boxes

In 2005, 13,559 fifty-pound food boxes were shared through agencies located in using a voucher system. This was a 10 percent increase in the total of boxes distributed in 2004.

The Chattanooga Area Food Bank is located on 2009 Curtain Pole Road, in Chattanooga, TN. For more information on CAFB, call 423-622-1800.

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